

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1757

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR UR

SUBJ: AVAILABILITY OF MEAT IN CITIES BETWEEN MOSCOW AND YAROSLAVL'

1. SUMMARY: ON SEPT 5, EMBASSY OFFICERS SWARTZ AND SMITH DROVE TO YAROSLAVL' TO DETERMINE AVAILABILITY OF MEAT IN CITIES OUTSIDE MOSCOW. PRACTICALLY NO BEEF OR FOWL WAS VISIBLE IN STATE STORES AND ONLY LIMITED AMOUNTS OF FRESH PORK WAS FOUND. ALMOST ALL OUTLETS HAD ADEQUATE SUPPLIES OF FISH. END SUMMARY.

2. YAROSLAVL' - POPULATION 517,000 - OBLAST CENTER

A. GASTRONOM, SOUTH END OF TOWN (0915)

LITTLE FATTY PORK AND LITTLE SLICED HAM AT 2.04 AND 2.25 RUBLES/KILO. WHEN ASKED IF THEY WOULD HAVE BEEF, CLERK LAUGHED AND AND ANSWERED "IF THEY BRING ANY."

B. GASTRONOM, CENTER OF TOWN (0930)

ONE-HALF TRAY OF GROUND MEAT--LOOKED LIKE BEEF-- AT 2 RUBLES/KILO. FOUR OR FIVE HAMS AT 3.30 RUBLES/KILO. FEW PIECES SALTED BACON AT 2.60 RUBLES/KILO. LITTLE PREPARED MEAT (INGURKA) AT 2.30 RUBLES/KILO. TWO PRESSED HAMS AT 3.60 RUBLES/KILO.

C. MEAT AND FISH STORE, CENTER OF TOWN (0945)

MODERATE AMOUNT OF FAIRLY GOOD-LOOKING BUT FATTY PORK AT 2.10 RUBLES/KILO. ONLY A FEW CUSTOMERS. NO BEEF.

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D. CENTRAL MARKET (1000)

STATE MEAT PAVILION CLOSED.

COLLECTIVE FARM PAVILION: MODERATE AMOUNT BEEF AND MUTTON.
EVERYTHING PRICED AT 3.50 RUBLES/KILO ACCORDING TO SEVERAL
DIFFERENT SELLERS. NO LONG LINES BUT NUMBER OF BUYERS. SAW
LARGE BOX OF DRESSED CHICKENS BEING BROUGHT IN.

E. GASTRONOM, NORTH SIDE OF TOWN (1100)

VERY LITTLE, GOOD-LOOKING BEEF AT 2.80 RUBLES/KILO. SOME
FATTYPORK AT 1.90 RUBLES/KILO. ONE AND A HALF PRESSED HAMS.

2. ROSTOV - POPULATION 31,000

A. GASTRONOM NO. 12, NORTH END OF TOWN (1330)

COUPLE HOG HEADS AT .70 RUBLES/KILO. FEW PIGS FEET AT .60
RUBLES/KILO. FEW BEEF HOOVES AT .30 RUBLES/KILO. LITTLE SAUSAGE.
ABUNDANT FISH.

B. GASTRONOM IN CENTER (1345)

HAD TRAY FOR PORK AT 2.50 RUBLES/KILO BUT IT WAS EMPTY.

C GASTRONOM IN CENTER (1350)

HAD FEW PIECES OF HOGS HEAD.

D. GASTRONOM IN CENTER (1355)

NO MEAT AVAILABLE.

3. PETROVSK - POPULATION OF SEVERAL THOUSAND

A. MEAT STORE CLOSED AT 1445 BUT NOT BECAUSE OF POSTED
LUNCH HOURS (1100-1200) OR CLOSED DAY (MONDAY).

B. TWO GASTRONOMS OFFERED FISH BUT NO MEAT.

R. PERESLAVL'-ZALESSKIY - POPULATION 30,000

A. GASTRONOM, CENTER OF TOWN (1530)

HAD FISH BUT NO MEAT EXCEPT ONE PIECE OF FAT PORK
(ALL FAT).

B. GASTRONOM NO. 9, SOUTH END (1540)

CLERK SAID: "NO MEAT IN THIS TOWN. WE RARELY HAVE IT.
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PROBLEM IS POOR DELIVERY."

5. STORE IN VILLAGE BETWEEN PERESLAVL'-ZALESSKIY AND ZAGORSK (1615)

WHEN ASKED ABOUT MEAT, CLERK REPLIED: "THE NEAREST MEAT IS
IN ZAGORSK."

6. ZAGORSK - POPULATION 92,000

A. GASTRONOM NO. 65, NORTH END OF TOWN IN APARTMENT AREA (1645)

ADEQUATE PORK CHOPS AT 1.90 RUBLES/KILO.
ADEQUATE SAUSAGE. HAM AT 3.70 RUBLES/KILO. BACON AT 2.60 RUBLES/
KILO. ADEQUATE FISH. NO BEEF.
B. GASTRONOM IN APARTMENT AREA (1700)
MODERATE AMOUNT OF PORK. ROLLED (LIKE CANADIAN)
BACON AT 3.70 RUBLES/KILO. MODERATE AMOUNT SMOKED SAUSAGE.
C. GASTRONOM IN CENTRAL AREA (1710)
MODERATE AMOUNT CANADIAN BACON. MODERATE AMOUNT
COOKED HAM AT 4.40 RUBLES/KILO.
D. GASTRONOM AT SOUTH END (1730)
VERY LARGE AMOUNT OF SAUSAGE. CANADIAN BACON.
LITTLE HAM. NO FRESH MEAT.
DUBS

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